(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्योरा क्या है ; और

(ग) इस स्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारों ने क्या कदम उठाये है?

गृह मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) से (ग) भारत पाकिस्तान सीमा पर तनाव के परिणामस्वरूप कुछ सीमावर्ती क्षेत्र में रहने वाले काफी लोग जनवरी, 1987 के अंतिम सप्ताह में भीतरी भागों में चले गय थे ।

सीमा पर तनाव को समाप्त कर के लिय भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच हुए समझौते के बाद इन लोगों न अपने घर को वापस जाना शुरू कर दिया है।

Strengthening of external publicity

*92. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to revamp our external publicity department set up abroad so as to improve our image abroad and also to project our viewpoints more forcefully on sensitive and important issues; and

(b) whether Government will draft professional hands for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) The needs of External publicity, as an essential and vital adjunct to the implementation of foreign policy, are constantly kept in mind and changes made as and when necessary.

(b) In the early days of the organisation of External Publicity it was, in fact, professional hands who were hired on contract for the purposes of publicity abroad. These persons were absorbed into the Foreign Service, when they were found fit. It is not considered necessary to draft professional hands again.

However, professional services, such as the Directorate of Audio-Visual Publicity (DAVP) and privately-produced films, are made use of.

Unauthorised agencies sending Indian labour abroad

*93 SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the existence of unauthorised agencies sending Indian labour abroad; and

(b) if so, how many such unauthorised agencies have been identified during the last one year and what action has so far been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 414 unauthorised agencies have been identified during the year 1986 and offences of cheating and fraud have been registered by the Police.

Setting up of nuclear testing facility on Kerguelen Islands by France

*94. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reported French move to set up a nuclear testing facility on Kerguelen Islands in the southern Indian Ocean; and